

IN THE TITLE

Please amend the title as follows:

--VERIFICATION AND PRINTING OF A TAX RETURN IN A NETWORK-BASED TAX
ARCHITECTURE—

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-18 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add claims 19-45 as follows:

- Sub B
19. (Newly Added) A method for tax form submittal verification comprising:
- receiving a tax form of a user by a third party government entity utilizing a network;
- storing a record of the tax form in a database of the third party government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the tax form has been submitted;
- receiving from the user a request for the record of the tax form utilizing the network;
- authenticating an identity of the user utilizing the network, wherein the identity is authenticated by requesting a password and a digital certificate from the user and validating the password and the digital certificate as belonging to the user; and
- sending the record of the tax form to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user.
20. (Newly Added) The method of claim 19, further comprising receiving a tax payment of the user by the third party government entity utilizing the network.
21. (Newly Added) The method of claim 20, further comprising storing a record of the tax payment in the database of the third party government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the payment has been submitted.
22. (Newly Added) The method of claim 21, further comprising receiving from the user a request for the record of the tax payment utilizing the network.
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23. (Newly Added) The method of claim 22, further comprising sending the record of the tax payment to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user.

24. (Newly Added) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the sending a tax form of a user to a third party government entity utilizing a network includes the Internet.

25. (Newly Added) A method as recited in claim 19, and further comprising the step of formatting the record for being printed by the user.

26. (Newly Added) A method as recited in claim 19, and further comprising the step of sending a notification relating to the record to a mail server of the user utilizing the network.

27. (Newly Added) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the authenticating an identity of the user includes storing the digital certificate on a computer of the user.

28. (Newly Added) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for tax form submittal verification comprising:

a code segment that receives a tax form of a user to a third party government entity utilizing a network;

a code segment that stores a record of the tax form in a database of the third party government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the tax form has been submitted;

a code segment that receives from the user a request for the record of the tax form utilizing the network;

a code segment that authenticates an identity of the user utilizing the network, wherein the identity is authenticated by requesting a password and a digital certificate from the user and validating the password and the digital certificate as belonging to the user; and

a code segment that sends the record of the tax form to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user.

29. (Newly Added) A computer program as recited in claim 28, and further comprising a code segment that receives a tax payment of the user by the third party government entity utilizing the network.

30. (Newly Added) A computer program as recited in claim 29, and further comprising a code segment that stores a record of the tax payment in the database of the third party government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the payment has been submitted.

31. (Newly Added) A computer program as recited in claim 30, and further comprising a code segment that receives from the user a request for the record of the tax payment utilizing the network.

32. (Newly Added) A computer program as recited in claim 31, and further comprising a code segment that sends the record of the tax payment to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user.

33. (Newly Added) A computer program as recited in claim 28, wherein the network includes the Internet.

34. (Newly Added) A computer program as recited in claim 28, and further comprising a code segment that formats the record for being printed by the user.

35. (Newly Added) A computer program as recited in claim 28, and further comprising a code segment that sends a notification relating to the record to a mail server of the user utilizing the network.

36. (Newly Added) A computer program as recited in claim 28, wherein the digital certificate is stored on a computer of the user.

37. (Newly Added) A system for tax form submittal verification comprising:

means for receiving a tax form of a user by a third party government entity utilizing a network;

means for storing a record of the tax form in a database of the third party government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the tax form has been submitted;

means for receiving from the user a request for the record of the tax form utilizing the network;

means for authenticating an identity of the user utilizing the network, wherein the identity is authenticated by requesting a password and a digital certificate from the user and validating the password and the digital certificate as belonging to the user; and

means for sending the record of the tax form to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user.

38. (Newly Added) A system as recited in claim 37, and further comprising a code segment that receives a tax payment of the user by the third party government entity utilizing the network.

39. (Newly Added) A system as recited in claim 38, further comprising means for storing a record of the tax payment in the database of the third party government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the payment has been submitted.

40. (Newly Added) A system as recited in claim 39, further comprising means for receiving from the user a request for the record of the tax payment utilizing the network.

41. (Newly Added) A system as recited in claim 40, further comprising means for sending the record of the tax payment to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user.

42. (Newly Added) A system as recited in claim 37, wherein the network includes the Internet.

43. (Newly Added) A system as recited in claim 37, further comprising means for formatting the record for being printed by the user.

44. (Newly Added) A system as recited in claim 37, further comprising means for sending a notification relating to the record to a mail server of the user utilizing the network.

45. (Newly Added) A system as recited in claim 37, wherein the digital certificate is stored on a computer of the user.